

In re Patent Application of:  
FLICK  
Serial No. 09/650,425  
Filed: 8/29/00

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Amendment. The attached paper is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

The arguments supporting the patentability of the claims are presented in detail below.

#### I. The Claims Are Patentable Over the Prior Art

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 11, 19 and 25 over the Mueller et al. patent. The present invention, as recited in independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a vehicle security system comprising at least one security sensor and a security controller connected thereto, and a siren comprising a housing and a siren electrical signal generator circuit carried by the housing for generating an electrical siren security alarm signal responsive to the security controller. The claim further recites that the siren comprises a shock detector circuit carried by the housing for processing an electrical shock sense signal for the security controller, and an electrical/mechanical (E/M) transducer carried by the housing for sounding a siren security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal.

By combining the siren signal and shock sensor components, for example, into the common housing, a compact, portable and readily installed device is provided which can be used alone or added to upgrade an existing vehicle security system as disclosed on page 13, lines 14-17 of Applicant's specification. In addition, the invention may be readily retrofitted to an existing vehicle security system with only a few simple electrical connections made within the engine compartment as disclosed on page 9, lines 26-32 of Applicant's specification.

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The Mueller et al. reference discloses a vehicle security system including a plurality of spaced apart discrete components. In particular, Mueller et al. discloses in FIG. 1 a first siren 33 under the hood of the vehicle, a second siren 81 at the rear window area of the vehicle, and a shock sensor 64 within the passenger compartment of the vehicle. Mueller et al. in FIGS. 9 and 10 also illustrates two embodiments of shock sensors 64, 64', each being self-contained within a respective housing 226, 232 without any additional components therein. Similarly, FIGS. 17 and 18 illustrate a conventional siren 450 including its own housing 452.

The Examiner is correct to note that the Mueller et al. reference does not specifically disclose the siren comprising a housing and other components, including the shock sensing circuitry, contained within the housing as in the claimed invention. The Examiner contended that because Mueller et al. discloses a housing for the receiver/controller, it would have been obvious to house other components of the system to protect them from damage due to environmental factors such as moisture, rocks, tar, etc.

It is respectfully asserted that not only does Mueller et al. fail to render the claimed invention obvious, but indeed it teaches away from the claimed invention. Mueller et al. discloses the shock sensor and siren devices being discrete and widely spaced apart in the vehicle. Separate respective housings are provided for the siren and shock sensor. There is simply no fair teaching or suggestion in Mueller et al. or any other prior art reference to disregard the clear teachings of Mueller et al. in an attempt

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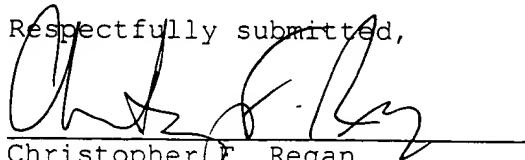
to produce the claimed invention. It appears that the Examiner is attempting to use impermissible hindsight reconstruction to modify Mueller et al. where indeed the reference teaches away from the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent Claim 1 is patentable over the prior art. Claims 11, 19 and 25 are similar to independent Claim 1 and are also patentable. In view of the patentability of the independent claims, it is submitted that their dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features are also patentable. Accordingly, these dependent claims require no further discussion herein.

#### CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and the arguments presented above, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claim 20 has been amended as follows:

20. (Amended) A siren according to Claim 19 wherein [the] a vehicle includes an ignition switchable between ON and OFF positions; and wherein said siren is operable responsive to the ignition being in the OFF position and is not operable responsive to the ignition being in the ON position.

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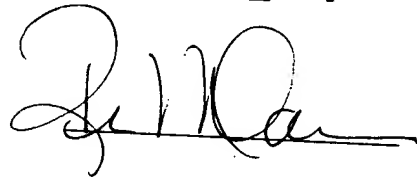
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: DIRECTOR, U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, on this 15 day of November, 2001.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. H. [unclear]", written over a horizontal line.